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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/750,767	01/05/2004	Chao-Ming Huang	HUAN3238/EM	1665

23364 7590 05/03/2005

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EXAMINER
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DUONG, HUNG V

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2835

DATE MAILED: 05/03/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

H.A

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/750,767

Applicant(s)

HUANG ET AL.

Examiner

Hung v. Duong

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 and 6-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4 and 5 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

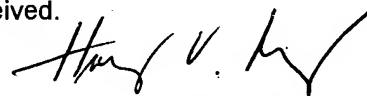
**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.



**HUNG VAN DUONG**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_.

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-3, 6, 8-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Zainaleain (US Pat. 5,191,276).

Regarding claims 1-3, 6, 8-12, Zainaleain discloses in figures 2-3, a casing 10, the casing 10 having a back side and at least two recessed locating holes 52 respectively disposed in at least two corners of the back side; and two plugs 42 to be respectively press-fitted to two of the at least two recessed locating holes 52 adjacent to one same peripheral side of the casing 10, the plugs 42 each comprising a center through hole, and a pin 54 insertable into the center through hole to radially expand the respective plug 42 into friction engagement with one of the at least two recessed locating holes 52 of the casing 10 into which the respective plug 42 is press-fitted, the pin 54 having an outer diameter greater than an inner diameter of the center through hole 52 wherein the plugs 42 comprising a head, wherein the head comprising a bottom side and an upper surface wherein the bottom side of the head is stopped outside the back side of the casing when the plug inserted into one of the at least two recessed

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locating holes of the casing wherein the outer surface of the shank of each of the plug is peripherally ribbed; at least two recessed locating holes each are peripherally ribbed on the wall inside wherein the pin of each of the plugs is respectively made from metal wherein the pin of each of the plugs each further comprising a pull tab at one end wherein the pull tab is fastened pivotally with the end of the pin wherein the pull tab is a pull ring.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Zainaleain (US Pat. 5,191,276) in view of Versluys (US Pat. 6,752,264).

Regarding claim 7, Zainaleain discloses all the subject matter of the claimed invention except for the plugs is respectively molded from rubber. However Versluys discloses the plugs are respectively molded from rubber (see Versluys 's column 3, lines 31-35). Therefore, it would be obvious to one of ordinary skill to include the plugs are respectively molded from rubber of Versluys into Zainaleain's plug in order to seal the passages.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

3. Claims 4-5 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: the prior art fails to disclose the head comprising a recess on the upper surface of the head.

***Conclusion***

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Nations (US Pat. 5,391,091) teaches connection system for blind mate electrical connector.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hung v Duong whose telephone number is 571-272-2041. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 8:30 to 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynn Field can be reached on 571-272-2092. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

HVD

4/28/05

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Hung V. Duong', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Hung Duong  
Primary Examiner.